

## ASHLAND BUDGET COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 18, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: C. Cilley, D. Ruell, G. Dion, N. DeWolfe, B. Hoerter, S. Coleman, H. Lamos, S. Downing (7:10pm)

OTHERS PRESENT: S. Weinberg, A. Staples, M. Badger, A. Cilley, L. Nichols

The meeting started at 7:00pm at the Fire station.

### LIBRARY

D. Ruell presented library budget.

There are 4 employees and the library is open 26 hours per week.

The difference from the 2016 proposed budget and the default budget is that the proposed budget is \$999.00 higher.

Scribners is now paying the insurance on the building.

MVSB gave a donation to the library, which was used for books.

DVD's were being stolen so now only the case is put out and storage boxes were purchased to keep the DVD's in.

Wages went up a little due to the \$.25 an hour step increase per employee since April. The two highest paid employees decreased their hours to save money on this line.

There were no concerns with the library budget.

Staples did announce that the library is getting together with CAP re: buying the building that CAP is now occupying. Hopefully the library will hear back sometime next week.

Presentation was finished at 7:15pm.

### ELECTRIC

L. Nichols did presentation.

There is about \$625,000. left to pay on the North Ashland Road project. Nichols said that the electric company has been putting monies away to pay the bond off quicker.

On call pay: Karen is on call 7 days a week at \$10.00 a day. One of the workers is on call at all times (Nichols is on unpaid on call) at the rate of \$20.00 per day. The workers alternate.

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There is a 3% increase in the labor lines.

Billing and accounting: This line is the salaries for Linda Pack, Karen, and Linda Guyotte.

Linda Pack and Lee Nichols are not in the union.

Commissioner salaries & expenses: This line is for seminars that come up for his workers.

Line transformers: line is overspent because they bought some transformers.

Power purchase: went up \$30,000. We are in year 3 of a 5-year contract. Ashland electric purchases 20 million kilowatt hours per year. We also purchase from the 3 hydro plants in Ashland. The figure also includes what New Hampton purchases from us.

Superintendence: for the purchase of poles, line transformers, ect.

Building maintenance: maintenance for the garage. Overspent because of fixing of the garage floor where the salt ate away at the concrete.

Maintenance primary: this line is overhead street wires.

Maintenance secondary: are wires that go to houses.

Salaries are included in maintenance lines depending on what work is being done.

The phone company pays the electric company \$700.00 for each pole set by the electric company.

Insurance: The bill comes in at the end of the year.

Stores & shops: materials/supplies and labor for in-house things.

This year there will be three warrant articles for budgets. One for town, one for water & sewer and one for electric.

Presentation was finished at 7:55pm.

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## MINUTES

DeWolfe made the motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lamos to accept the minutes of August 20, 2015 as written. All members ayed.

Hoerter made the motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dion to accept the minutes of October 22, 2015 as written. 6 members ayed. 2 members abstained.

Hoerter made the motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Downing to accept the minutes of November 12, 2015 with corrections: Pg 3- change all Decembers to November. Pg 1- change \$300.00 for boot allowance to read \$100.00 per person for 3 people. All members ayed.

## SCHEDULING/MEETINGS

November 23—fire, park & rec, and town admin. at the elementary school library at 7:00pm

November 30—water & sewer and town admin at the fire station at 6:00pm

Dion made the motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by DeWolfe to accept the following dates and times:

December 15—6:30pm—place TBD

December 17—7:00pm—place TBD

December 28—6:00pm—place TBD

December 29—6:00pm—place TBD

December 30—6:00pm—place TBD

All members ayed.

DeWolfe made the motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dion to adjourn the meeting at 8:26pm. All members ayed.

Submitted by:

Christine Cilley